

product, wherein the suspension contains at least one dispersant and water, and
wherein the dispersion occurs at a pH greater than 6. (reads or neutral)

5. (Amended) The method of Claim 3 wherein the pH greater than 6
is obtained by the presence of at least one alkaline substance. (specimen to polyacrylate)

22. (Amended) The method of Claim 20 further comprising removing
additional water from the redispersed filter cake by a process chosen from evaporation
and drying.

43. The method of Claim 5, wherein the at least one alkaline substance
is chosen from soda ash, sodium hydroxide, and ammonium hydroxide.

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-6, 8-42, and new claim 43 are pending in this application. Claim 7 has been canceled and claims 1, 5 and 22 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in Claims 1, 5 and 22, and Example 1, as originally filed. No new matter has been added by these amendments and no estoppels are intended thereby. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 14-16, 18-31, 33-36, and 40.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112 Second Paragraph

Claims 5 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim that which is regarded as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

SPEC. P. 8 DISPERSANT acids
PO₄³⁻, polyacrylates, silicates,
sulfates, lignosulfonates